EQUAL RIGHTS

"MEN AND WOMEN SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND EVERY PLACE SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION"

Amendment to the United States Constitution now before Congress

Susan B. Anthony at the age of forty-eight. Governors of twenty-eight states and three territories have proclaimed her birthday, February 15, Susan B. Anthony Day

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

Washington, D. C.

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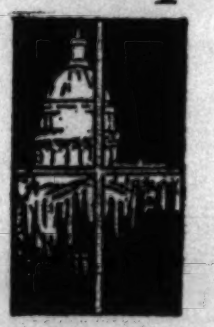
Equal Rights



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HELEN HUNT WEST . . . . . Editor

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NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

OBJECT

To secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships—in particular to secure the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, and the adherence of the United States to the Equal Rights Treaty. The Woman's Party also supports the proposed Equality Amendments to the Covenant of the League of Nations.

THE PROPOSED EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

"Art. 1—Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

"Art. 2—Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Introduced

Senate—By Senator John G. Townsend, (Del.), and Senator Edward R. Burke, (Neb.), Jan. 4, 1939, (Senate Joint Resolution No. 7).

House—By Representative Louis Ludlow, (Ind.), Jan. 3, 1939, (House Joint Resolution No. 2).
By Representative U. S. Guyer, (Kans.), Jan. 3, 1939, (House Joint Resolution No. 27).
By Representative Ambrose J. Kennedy, (Md.), Jan. 3, 1939, (House Joint Resolution No. 25).

Present Status

Senate—Before Judiciary Committee.

House—Before Judiciary Committee.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS TREATY

"Art. 1—The contracting States agree that upon the ratification of this Treaty men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the territory subject to their respective jurisdictions."

Signed

By Cuba, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Uruguay, at Montevideo, December, 1933.

PROPOSED EQUALITY AMENDMENTS TO COVENANT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries the right of vote shall not be denied or abridged on the ground of sex."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries there shall be no distinction based on sex in their law and practice regarding nationality."

"The members of the League undertake that in their respective countries men and women shall have equal rights in all other fields."

"The members of the League undertake that there shall be both men and women, with full voting powers, in all delegations to the Council and Assembly of the League and to all Conferences under the auspices of the League."

Present Status

Before the League of Nations Committee on Status of Women.

An Authority Is Mistaken

AN AUTHORITY on a subject is one whose word carries weight because of reputed knowledge of that subject. Recognition as an authority carries with it responsibility. One *should* be right, but even authorities are sometimes wrong.

Dean Lloyd K. Garrison, of the Law School of the University of Wisconsin, who was recently referred to as an opponent of the Equal Rights Amendment, says: "The Equal Rights Amendment seems to be objectionable, partly because it may cast doubt on the validity of much existing state legislation which is beneficial to women, and partly because it repeats the mistake of the Eighteenth Amendment, which sought to impose a single national rule in a matter involving social customs and habits, (this means women, Ed.), which differ widely from locality to locality. I believe the sounder course is to tackle the matter state by state in the light of existing legislation, social attitude and customs in such state."

"My general philosophy," says the Dean, "is that Congress should have power to legislate in matters of national concern which affect the economy of the whole and with which the states acting separately cannot effectively deal. While I sympathize with the objectives of the proposed amendment," he continues, "it seems to me that the legal status of women is a matter which can effectively be dealt with by the states acting separately and that under these circumstances a national rule ought not to be attempted."

It is obvious that the Dean, who in effect says that he believes in equality, has not thought the matter through, legally or otherwise. If he had, he would know that the objectives cannot be attained and held by the state method. State law changes overnight. If he had thought it through, he would know that a legal principle is involved—that of equal protection of the law; that it is neither sound nor safe to consider women merely in the light of "social customs and habits", rather than as citizens with property rights; rights in the partnership of marriage; rights in their children; rights in their wages; with the right to work for a living unhampered by laws that do not apply to all workers alike; with the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." In what way do these fundamental rights entangle with "social customs" to make the latter of greater importance?

Equal application of the law is the very foundation of democratic government. The pattern is laid down in the Constitution. That document establishes a single national rule which denies to the states the right to deal with "freedom of speech," and "freedom of the press," according to local "social attitude." That document contains the Fourteenth Amendment, placed there because the states were not trusted to deal with the citizenship rights of the newly freed Negro slaves "in the light of existing legislation, social attitude and customs."

The Dean fears the Amendment may cast doubt on much existing state legislation. We sincerely hope so. This legislation is *not* beneficial to women. It is a definite handicap.

He objects to imposing a single national rule. The Constitution is a set of such rules. The Dean as an authority knows this.

The Equal Rights Amendment provides only that the law shall be equal in its application to men and women. The Dean, as an authority knows this to be in accord with the principles of justice and democratic government.

Gift Of Original Anthony Letter

COMING to the National Woman's Party as a Susan B. Anthony birthday anniversary gift, is one of Miss Anthony's original letters, which will be formally presented on February 16 at National Headquarters by Mrs. Elizabeth Hatfield Schnabel, Pennsylvania Chairman, to whom it was given by the late Lucretia Blankenburg.

Susan B. Anthony and Lucretia Blankenburg were lifelong friends and co-workers in the cause of equal rights. Mrs. Blankenburg, a friend of Mrs. Schnabel, said to her one day: "Do you know, I've a lot of letters which my old friend Susan wrote me in the long years of our friendship, and if it will help you to interest others in the cause, I'm going to give you a couple. I'll ask you one thing. Don't destroy them when you have finished with them. Give them to the Historical Society or the National Woman's Party for permanent keeping." Faithful to the trust, Mrs. Schnabel is presenting one of the letters to the Pennsylvania Historical Society and the other to the National Woman's Party.

The letter is dated Riggs House, Washington, D. C., March 11, 1891. It is on the stationery of the National-American Woman Suffrage Association and carries on the letterhead the following list of officers: Elizabeth Cady Stanton, president; Susan B. Anthony, vice-president at large; Lucy Stone, chairman executive committee; Jane H. Spofford, treasurer; Alice Stone Blackwell, corresponding secretary; Rachel Foster Avery, recording secretary; Eliza Titus Ward and Rev. F. A. Hinckley, auditors; Rev. Annie H. Shaw, national lecturer and Lucy R. Anthony, private secretary.

The letter is of an intimate nature and in it she refers to "our old friend Anna Dickinson."

Speaking of her desire to help those in need she says: "I have little—so little—that this A. M. I am deep in sadness over the many things I would do to help others and can't!"

Discussing the plight of a mutual friend she says: "Frances Willard writes and has pledged $100."

The characteristically brief and very direct letter closes with: "So tell me—what I can get others to help to do, and believe me, lovingly yours, Susan B. Anthony."

The work of the Susan B. Anthony Memorial Committee of the National Woman's Party, of which Mrs. Robert Adamson, of Middletown, N. J., is chairman, is responsible for the effective nationwide campaign to preserve for all time the memory of Miss Anthony, as a pioneer worker for the freedom of women. Through the efforts of this committee, which is organized in every state, letters of Miss Anthony are being carefully preserved; the United States Post Office Department has been prevailed upon to issue a Susan B. Anthony commemorative stamp and governors of twenty-eight states and three territories have proclaimed February 15 Susan B. Anthony Day.

Throughout the United States today Susan B. Anthony meetings are being held. The radio and newspapers are today telling the world of the work of Miss Anthony. In the United States Capitol in Washington; in the Quaker Meeting House on Gramercy Park, New York; in Detroit, Mich.; Richmond, Va.; Baltimore, Md.; Providence, R. I.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Boston, Mass., and other points, special meetings are being held to honor Miss Anthony.

The past year has seen a giant Sequoia in Sequoia National Forest in California named "Susan B. Anthony," the United States Department of the Interior making this possible. The Pullman Company outshopped a car, bearing the name of the Equal Rights pioneer.

February 15 is coming to be generally known as the birthday of Susan B. Anthony, just as February 22 is universally known as the birthday of George Washington. This fact alone testifies to the change in the thought of people toward the equal rights program she sponsored.

Susan B. Anthony, who took the long view for women, is taking her place with the Great of History!

Madame Granitsch Welcomed

Madame Helene Granitsch, one of the foremost feminists of Austria and widely known as a leading feminist of Eastern Europe, arrived in New York February 2 on the S. S. Normandie, an exile from her native land.

Her magazine, *Das Wort de Frau,* ceased publication last March, after performing an outstanding service to the feminist cause, and the Austrian Woman's Party, of which she was chairman, shared the fate of many other women's organizations of Eastern Europe. It is no longer permitted to function for equal rights. Its treasury has been taken over by the Government and its literature confiscated.

"I am looking forward with the greatest pleasure," she wrote to friends here just before sailing, "to life in your country, where women can still meet together and talk about their interests; where they can still work with their Congress for better conditions."

In the welcoming delegation were leaders in the woman movement: Alice Paul, Chairman of the World Woman's Party, an old friend and co-worker in Geneva; Mrs. Linda Littlejohn, of Australia, Chairman of Equal Rights International, of which Madame Granitsch is vice chairman; Mrs. Stephen H. Pell, Chairman, National Woman's Party; Jane Norman Smith, first vice chairman; Anita Pollitzer, of the Executive Council; Francisca Berg, Mrs. Robert Errington, Mildred Palmer and Mrs. Annerika Fries, of the New York City Branch and others.

At the pier a representative of the State Department met the welcoming delegation and with great kindness facilitated the landing of the noted Austrian woman, whose first contact with the American people was through a brief radio greeting she was prevailed upon to give from the dock.

The party was then invited to the Waldorf Hotel, where the management had reserved a suite for an informal reception. After a luncheon at the apartment of Miss Pollitzer, Madame Granitsch was entertained at the home of a Woman's Party member until her departure for Portland, Oregon, to join her daughter, who had preceded her to America.

"I feel particularly close to women of America," said the veteran worker for equality, "because the Woman's Party of Austria was founded by the Woman's Party of the United States." Margaret Whittemore, of the National Woman's Party, collaborating with Madame Granitsch and Madame Marianne Hainisch, organized the Austrian Woman's Party.

Removed, at least for the time being, from her field of usefulness in her native land, Madame Granitsch has found a warm welcome in the United States, where she expects to remain indefinitely.

Why Men Invade Women's Job

By An Industrial Worker

IN THE annual report of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor, recommendation is made that vocational training and guidance for women be increased and that "new fields of employment be devised" for women, because men are "encroaching on the traditional fields" of women's work.

Certainly women have had less opportunity for vocational training during the depression than men. Such facilities for both men and women undoubtedly should be at once made adequate to meet the need. Encroachment of men in women's traditional fields, however, is scarcely a new development. It has been happening since the days when "women's work" began to leave the home for the factory, and men were thereby enabled to encroach on women's preserves. Women thereupon began encroaching in the traditional fields of men's work. Men became bakers, weavers, makers of clothing, and so forth, while women practically took over the teaching profession and became factory and office workers of all sorts.

However, men had sufficient economic power and prestige to relegate women mostly to the underpaid, blind alley jobs up to the time of the World War. Then women were required to man the country's industries to such an extent that they gained entrée into jobs never before held by women, and at wages that would formerly have been regarded as men's wages. Equal pay for equal work, as well as equal work for equal pay, was realized during that boom time in many occupations and approached in all. With the coming of the depression both men and women suffered unemployment and lowered wages. Men's jobs were taken by women and women's jobs were taken by men as opportunity offered. The time seems now to have come to recognize neither men's work nor women's work, but work in which either men or women may be the employed units. Both men and women are in need of new fields of employment.

It is quite true, as the Women's Bureau states, that men and boys are driving women from both organized and unorganized trades in which they have worked for years. The strongest weapons for accomplishing this are the State labor laws which enable males to work during parts of the 24 hours in which women are forbidden to work and for wages which minimum wage boards do not allow women to accept.

For example, in one State a trade formerly serviced entirely by women has so far passed to men and boys that women can no longer earn a subsistence in it. Unorganized boys, working under the Federal Wages and Hours Law, are taking the jobs of Union women at 25 cents an hour—considerably less than half the women's Union scale. Employers complain that the work of the boys is unsatisfactory, but a State law which forbids the employment of women on night shifts or on any overtime makes it impossible to get the work done by women employees. This is the situation. Work comes to the department in question from another department at any hour in the day it happens to be finished by the first group in the manufacturing process. It may be 2 or 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Women scheduled to work on a day shift (usually 8.30 A. M. to 5 P. M.) cannot work eight hours (the legal hour limit) from the time they start work, but must quit at the normal time for their shift to end. This means that women may get only two or three hours for a day's work and then have to leave the work unfinished. But the boys can start at any time and work to the end of their eight hours and can then work overtime if necessary, as provided in the Federal Wages and Hours Law. All night shifts in this trade have male employees, as women are not allowed to work on night shifts in factories in the State. Because of this State-sponsored condition, skilled, unionized women get from 2 to 8 hours work per day on such days as they are employed, but are unemployed the greater part of the time. A few men and many boys get their work. This is a typical example of how men are enabled to "encroach in women's traditional fields."

Instead of calmly accepting the encroachment and devising new fields of employment for women on which men would immediately encroach, it would seem just, and common sense would indicate that the following steps be taken:

(1) States should repeal laws distinguishing between women's employment and men's employment and enact in their place State laws in line with the Federal Wages and Hours Law which would apply to all workers.

(2) New fields of employment should be devised for both men and women workers.

(3) Vocational training facilities should be extended to meet the needs of all unemployed persons, whether they are men or women.

Figures Tell The Story

By Alma Lutz

There are 35,886,867 women over 21 years of age in the United States, according to the 1930 census. Of this number 14%, or 5,591,086 are gainfully employed. One-fifth of those gainfully employed are in manufacturing and mechanical industries. In other words, about 3% of the women of the United States over 21 years of age are employed in manufacturing or mechanical industries.

One of the chief arguments offered by opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment is that it would wipe out protective labor legislation which has been gained for women in industry. I do not believe this would happen since the tendency is toward Wage-Hour Legislation for men and women in the States, patterned after the Federal Wage-Hour Law. Nor do I believe that protective labor legislation for women only brings the help and protection to working women that is claimed for it, but rather that it interferes with their free competition with men, allows men and boys to undercut them and rules women out of many well-paying jobs because they cannot work overtime.

But assuming that all that is claimed for it is true, this very important question must be answered: IS IT JUST SENSIBLE THAT 97% OF THE WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES BE DEPRIVED OF FULL CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS, OF EQUAL TREATMENT WITH MEN UNDER THE LAW AND THE IMPROVED GENERAL STATUS THAT THIS CONFERS SO THAT 3% OF THE WOMEN MAY CONTINUE UNDER SPECIAL PROTECTIVE LABOR LEGISLATION?

Mrs. Littlejohn Speaks At Woman's Party Gathering

PRESIDENT OF EQUAL RIGHTS INTERNATIONAL TERMS I. L. O. PROPOSAL "DANGER TO ALL WOMEN"

Digest of speech delivered at National Woman's Party dinner January 8

I AM indeed honored to be present at the dinner which not only celebrates your twenty-fifth birthday, but also honors Mrs. Stephen Pell, your National Chairman and Alice Paul, your founder. I have worked with Alice Paul for some years at Geneva, so I can also testify to her unfailing courage, her vision, her quiet perseverance, her magnificent understanding of equality—in fact, to her outstanding contribution to the woman's cause.

It will be my lifelong regret that I was not one of that great, glorious band of women who struggled, toiled and suffered even imprisonment for the justice of the cause of women, for I feel that in spite of all they suffered, out of their sufferings was forged a bond of loyalty, sympathy, friendship and cooperation which probably could not have been forged under any other circumstances; which, to those privileged to be of that number, will be something they will cherish while life shall last.

Before the war, women of many countries concentrated on winning the war. After the war, in many countries, it was won—and in many countries already it is lost again.

Alas, many feel that with the winning of the vote, woman's emancipation was achieved. They have concentrated on party politics, peace work, social welfare, dissipating their energies. They are quite blind to the fact that the vote was just the opening of the door—ever so little—and that much work is needed if the door is to be pushed wide open and kept open.

The National Woman's Party in America and the Equal Rights International in the international field, saw that a permanent doorstop was necessary. To that end you have your Equal Rights Amendment. In the international field we have the Equal Rights Treaty. May they both eventuate in the near future. . . . At present, whether we be in America or elsewhere, in spite of international chaos, we must not become insular, but be ever on the alert to watch these international happenings, many of which are of great danger to women.

One of the most recent is contained in a questionnaire issued by the International Labor Organization relative to the right of indigenous women to conclude contracts. Apparently the ILO would limit the right of such women, which is not only unjust to them, but by the wording of the intention contains a great danger to *all* women. For who are indigenous women? I am indigenous to Australia. Most of you are indigenous to America. Some contend it will only apply to colored peoples, but indigenous does *not* only *mean* colored peoples. In fact, the definition in the ILO questionnaire explains indigenous as *including* workers belong to the indigenous population of dependent territories. Yes, but who else may be *included* too? Maybe you—maybe I! This is all too vague. We must see to it that our respective countries refuse to be a party to such a strangely worded and definitely unjust ruling.

At times I feel that we feminists should sit down and formulate a woman's creed. If we did, I think it should run something like this:

A WOMAN'S CREED

We do not believe in the supposed inferiority of women.

We believe women have needs—gifts—rights as humans, quite apart from sex.

We believe that a civilized state of society must recognize the right of women to satisfy these needs—exercise these gifts—the same rights as are accorded to adult males.

We demand the right to earn on the same terms and conditions as our male competitors.

We demand the right to equal pay for work of equal value. And further, we demand the right to DO the equal work. We demand the right to marry and earn; to decide for ourselves whether we desire to earn.

We resent the suggestion that women workers do not desire the best for their children, and we claim that women themselves are best suited to decide for themselves what that standard shall be.

Today we are persons, not someone's belongings; thus we demand the rights and duties and responsibilities together with the freedom of choice allowed adult male citizens.

We ask respect, not pity; a fair deal, not protection as infants; equality, not philanthropy.

With this creed in mind, now it behooves us as good feminists to set our minds on our final goal and to remember that though in small details certain societies may differ, yet in great things we think alike. To this end, we will unite—work.

Bitter experience has taught us what to withstand, and how to build. That we shall need strength for this task, we fully realize. May we be blest in finding it.

Publications

What Every Woman Ought to Know	$ .05
Significance of the Equal Rights Amendment	.05
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National Woman's Party
144 B Street Northeast Washington, D. C.

Women, As Gertrude Atherton Sees Them

By Alma Lutz

GERTRUDE ATHERTON has written a series of entertaining essays under the title, "Can Women Be Gentlemen." Four of these essays, "Are Women Born Liars?," "Why Can't Women Be Gentlemen?," "Why Do Women Hate One Another?," and "Superwomen," deal with women in particular. The rest discuss a variety of subjects, such as "Defeating Old Age," "Why People Like Dictators and Kings, Escape Literature," and so on. She has interesting, original, and witty opinions on many subjects, but she is to be particularly commended for her high regard for women and her keen humorous way of annihilating the false traditions that have grown up about them.

She gives an interesting picture of the dominance of women in Egypt in the fourteenth century B. C. as recorded by the Vertings in their work, "The Dominant Sex." She tells how this dominance ended and that a short period of sex equality followed until men seized the power and women became the subordinate sex. After centuries of submission, women began to demand their rights, and according to Mrs. Atherton, we are now in the first stages of sex equality, but the first only. "The winning of the franchise was the initial step, little more," she says. "Man still bestrides the world like a colossus."

But Mrs. Atherton does not think the position of the dominant male is safe. She believes that women will assert their equality more and more in the business and professional world. Women control a large percentage of the wealth of the country. They have shown that they can equal man's physical endurance in swimming and certain sports. Women are headed for equality and men cannot stem the tide, but Mrs. Atherton warns women to be wise and not again become the dominant sex, for complete equality is the ideal solution.

In answer to the question, "Are Women Born Liars?" Mrs. Atherton says "lying has gone out with 'trains' for street wear, curves, hat pins, 'airs', and clumsy make-up."

"There are millions and millions of women today," she continues, "—and it is time men digested this fact—whose 'instincts' are quite as gentlemanly as those of a man at his best."

Nor does she believe that traditional theory that women hate one another. As women's interests widened through education, clubs, and even "five hundred" and bridge their thoughts and conversation reached beyond the personal. Hate, she observes, has been rampant in the world and "has poisoned religions, politics, precipitated wars, ruined careers, and played a large part in crime." It is not a sex failing but a manifestation of human nature.

In Mrs. Atherton's opinion the age in which we live has been a God-send to women. Less than fifty years ago a woman was an "old maid" at twenty-five, and there was no place for her except caring for an invalid parent or playing the part of a useful aunt. As a school teacher she survived as a person of sorts in the community. Those were the days when "some man was the arbiter of every woman's destiny, and if no man at all dawned upon her horizon, that was sheer tragedy." Now for the first time in modern history women are comparatively independent of men. Most of them like men, prefer marriage and children, but if they do not find them, they do not despair nor lapse into dependent old age. They develop and enjoy life.

"The only fly in the ointment," says Mrs. Atherton, "will be that they are likely to outlive their male contemporaries." She adds:

"Life is harsher for men than women, who seem to have developed a tougher fiber; moreover, men seldom can be induced to take the same care of themselves. Consequently their moral as well as their physical resistance wears them.

"I often feel sorry for men. How quaint that would have sounded fifty—even thirty—years ago."

Zona Gale Dies

In the passing of Zona Gale, the noted novelist, December 27 in Chicago, Ill., the Woman's Party lost one of its valued members.

Always a worker for equality and the Equal Rights Amendment as the way of securing it, on many occasions she used not only her time but her great talent for the cause in which she believed. Miss Gale, who in private life was Mrs. W. L. Breese, was a resident of Portage, Wis. Her best known work, "Miss Lulu Bett," won the Pulitzer Prize in 1921.

Your Seal Of Approval

Remember to place on the flap of every letter you write, your "Seal of Approval" of Democracy for Women.

This is a part of the campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment in which every individual can participate. Buy Equal Rights Seals for your own use and persuade your friends to buy and use them. Become a part of the Campaign for Democracy for Women. Order now! Address Equal Rights Seal Campaign, 542 Fifth Avenue, New York.

New Pasadena Branch

Mrs. Amy C. Ransome, third vice-chairman of the Woman's Party, sponsored an organization meeting of the new Pasadena, California, Branch of the Party recently at her home, 543 San Marino Avenue.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Miss Sybil Moore; vice-chairman, Mrs. Grace B. Ray; secretary, Helen Ward; treasurer, Rose Connor.

MILDRED SEYDELL

Internationally Read Writer, Newspaper Woman, and Brilliant Speaker.

(See *Who's Who in America*, for details)

Lecture Subject:

"LIVING HISTORY"

her recent experiences in Germany and Czechoslovakia

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A Feminist Thinks It Over

By ALMA LUTZ

DON'T BE A LADY BOUNTIFUL

In her interesting column on the Woman's Page of *The Christian Science Monitor* Millicent Taylor makes some very pertinent comments regarding the Lady Bountiful attitude which many women still affect. Lady Bountiful, she says, although at first thought gracious and charming, is no friend of Democracy. "Brotherly love, sincere respect for one another, an honest acknowledgment that we are all members of one beloved human family having one Father—this is an atmosphere in which she cannot thrive, for her innate conviction is 'I do not speak it aloud, but I am really better than thou'."

I am going farther than Miss Taylor in inveighing against the Lady Bountiful attitude in women, not only because I believe it is out of tune with Democracy, but because I feel it is very harmful to the progress of women.

Perhaps college women and women of wealth and family are not to be blamed entirely for their Lady Bountiful tendencies, because for so many years the only avenue of activity and self-expression for them was social service work. This was regarded as a perfectly proper feminine outlet, if one's energies, executive ability, and mental activity demanded something beyond society and the home.

But even today in spite of wider fields of activity for women, Lady Bountiful is still with us. We see her in almost all women's clubs turning study and activities toward welfare projects. A desire to improve conditions is of course commendable. But if women would learn to express that desire through more natural channels, in the running of their own businesses and in taking a larger share of the responsibilities of government, they would not only improve conditions much more rapidly but develop their own abilities as well. Women in numbers on school boards, on City Councils, as judges in juvenile courts, in legislatures, can do far more to improve conditions than hundreds of Lady Bountifuls in clubs and charity organizations.

One of Lady Bountiful's strongholds is among those who advocate protective labor legislation for women. In this connection Lady Bountiful thrives not only among wealthy women but among middle class club women who like the feeling of being sorry for and generous to the poor women who work. Lady Bountiful waxes eloquent over laws regulating women's work and does not realize how much woman's progress is being retarded when she is put in a special labor class. Working women who lose their jobs to men and boys could tell Lady Bountiful a great deal about the practical working of those laws, but Lady Bountiful doesn't like to listen. She thinks she knows better and she is happy feeling noble and philanthropic as she spreads a network of protective laws over the country.

Strange it is, that Lady Bountiful does not feel responsible about helping the poor working man. She might of course help him get protective laws too. Instead, the more inarticulate, weak, and incapable she can make working women appear, the more satisfaction she seems to get, for in that way of course she is able to glorify herself as a benefactor.

When we suggest to Lady Bountiful that protective laws relating to the job rather than the sex of the worker would be better all around, she immediately goes up in the air, for it is not nearly so satisfactory to feel sorry about conditions in a trade or a job as for the poor working woman.

The tragedy lies in the fact that while Lady Bountiful is valiantly trying to protect 3% of the women of this country who are engaged in manufacturing and mechanical industries, she is making out a very bad case for the 97%, keeping their status low, closing doors to them, and retarding their progress in every field.

Lady Bountiful has no place in Democracy where all people — men and women — should enjoy equal rights and equal opportunities.

Passing Of Dr. Mary O'Malley

The Woman's Party learned with genuine regret of the passing on February 2 at her home in Buffalo, N. Y., of Dr. Mary O'Malley, long one of its most loyal members.

Dr. O'Malley, a former president of the Medical Women's National Association, was one of the nation's foremost psychiatrists. For years she was associated with Dr. William A. White, in charge of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, as principal assistant. Both Dr. O'Malley and her chief, Dr. White, were outspoken in their support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Dr. O'Malley was a devout member of the Catholic Church.

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Re: Women's Bureau Bulletin No. 166

The following letter addressed to Mary Anderson, Chief of the Women's Bureau, United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., by Helen Robbins Bittermann, of Ohio, Chairman of the Woman's Party Congressional Committee, is self explanatory:

My dear Miss Anderson:

May I take this opportunity of congratulating you on Women's Bureau Bulletin No. 166 entitled "The Effect of Minimum-Wage Determination in Service Industries," applying to the laundry and dry cleaning industries in Indiana and Ohio. It is the most competent statistical investigation which I have yet seen from your bureau.

I trust that I am not unreasonably querulous if I suggest, however, that excellent though this bulletin may be, it still does not prove your contention that minimum wage laws for women only actually operate to the advantage of the women concerned.

You note (page 1) that "unquestionably such legislation must be reviewed as it operates under fluctuations in business conditions and under scientific advancement in industrial processes and commercial practice before its value to women can be distinguished sharply from changes in women's status due to other influences." Yet the period covered by your investigation is admittedly only the upswing of the cycle. You note (page 12) the material increase in sales from April, 1934 to April, 1937. In other words, you are dealing only with that part of the cycle when theoretically one might expect that minimum wage rates would not affect employment.

However, by turning to Table II (page 33), I find a most interesting comparison between the employment of women in the dry cleaning industry in Ohio, which has had a minimum wage law since the fall of 1934, and in Indiana, which has no such law. In Indiana, in 1935, the employment increased 3.2 per cent over 1934. In Ohio, it fell 1.4 per cent in the same period, which was the first year of the enforcement of the minimum wage law. In 1937, which was a peak year in the industry, employment picked up in Ohio 10.6 per cent. But in Indiana, it rose 21.9 per cent, over twice as much in a non-regulated state as in a regulated one. Consequently, your conclusion that minimum wage legislation does not noticeably affect the employment of women must be modified in two directions on the basis of your own data. If the minimum wage was the sole difference between conditions of employment in Ohio and Indiana, as you infer, then the law not only was responsible for the dismissal of women in the first year of its operation, but it retarded the normal increase of employment in a peak year.

However, the period most critical for the operation of minimum wage laws is not the upswing of the cycle but the downswing. For this you have given no data. The "recession" hit Ohio's dry cleaning industry in November, 1937, seven months after your investigation. I can not expect the Women's Bureau to devote all its time to investigations of the dry cleaning industry in Ohio. But I must point out that your investigation, however excellent, has not touched that half of the business cycle for which the minimum wage was originally designed. Until such data are available, your contention that minimum wage laws for women only do not affect their employment must remain unproved.

In disproof of your contention, may I call attention to your annual report, just published, wherein you say: "Available data indicate that men are encroaching in women's traditional fields of retail trade, hotels and restaurants, laundries, office work, textiles, men's clothing and confectionery." Is it insignificant that among those industries are three (retail trade, hotels and restaurants, laundries) frequently brought under minimum wage regulation for women only? Is this only a coincidence? Or is there not reason to believe that minimum wage regulation for women only is a factor in the invasion of women's jobs by men? It is difficult to make any employer admit, particularly to investigators of the Women's Bureau, that he has dismissed women because of the minimum wage. But when one finds women dropping out of an industry thus regulated over a period of years, and men, unprotected, filtering in, surely one is justified in assuming that that regulation has been at least one factor in the shift. Faithfully,

(Signed) MRS. HELEN ROBBINS BITTERMANN,
Chairman, Congressional Committee,
National Woman's Party.

Marriage Wins Court Ruling

The institution of marriage won a victory recently when Superior Court Judge John D. Humphries, of Atlanta, Ga., ruled that school teachers of Atlanta and Fulton counties could not be dismissed because of marriage. The decision was in connection with an appeal against dismissal filed by Mrs. Mary Jones Hughie, former principal, who was not permitted to return to her job last fall because she married during the previous school term. The board had ruled that dismissal was the penalty for marriage.

The Court ordered the school board to re-hire Mrs. Hughie and to pay her back salary. The ruling, it was said, would affect similarly from fifteen to twenty others, who had been dismissed this year because of marriage.

Woman Secretary Of State

Miss S. M. R. O'Hara, recently appointed to the high office of Secretary of State for Pennsylvania, replying to a congratulatory letter from Caroline Lexow Babcock, Campaign Secretary, National Woman's Party, writes:

"It has been one of the keenest pleasures of my appointment to receive so many messages of good will from near and far.

"I hope that my appointment may contribute in some small way toward the more general acceptance of women for public office."

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